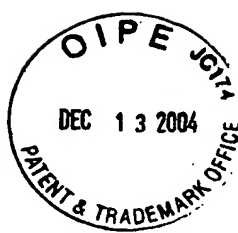


Attorney Docket: 081468-0306289
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:
MULDER ET AL.

Confirmation Number: 9872

Application No.: **10/684,826**

Group Art Unit: 2828

Filed: October 15, 2003

Examiner: Rodney Evan Fuller

Title: **METHOD OF DETERMINING STRAY RADIATION LITHOGRAPHIC PROJECTION APPARATUS**

December 09, 2004

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COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

**Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Applicants confirm with appreciation the receipt of the Notice of Allowability for this application. In reply to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance of November 9, 2004, Applicants respectfully note that patentability is based on the subject matter of the claims as a whole. That is, the patentability of the claims rests on the combination of recited elements and limitations. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that no one element or limitation in particular should be deemed to impart to or be required for patentability of the claims.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that independent method claims 1 and 9 and independent apparatus claim 10 are all separately patentable from each other and solely for the subject matter specifically recited as a whole in each of those claims.

Respectfully submitted,
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